

CONFIDENTIAL
Executive Report
P-1423

3 March 1957

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DCI Discussion with Mr. James M. Barker

1. On 16 February 1957 the DCI gave a talk at an N.Y.U. alumni dinner in Chicago arranged by Mr. James M. Barker. During the course of their conversation Mr. Barker expressed several views of interest to the DCI.

2. Mr. Barker pointed out that in many countries there are no word symbols for a lot of our ordinary concepts. For example, in Turkey the word for "education" is the same as that for "drill" and there is no word for "unification". He believes we should analyze the language formation before starting any aid or propaganda effort. Why delude ourselves that we can convey ideas if there is no symbol for those ideas in the minds of the people. (He recommends "The Power of Symbols" by Bevan.)

3. In learning languages Mr. Barker apparently puts great faith in the Carl Sonnberg test developed by a Professor at the University of Iowa and used by the Juilliard School of Music to test the intrinsic ability of an individual to understand tones. He points out that some individuals learn with the mind and some learn with the ear, and strongly recommends screening out by tests those who have aptitude and those who have genius.

Mr. Barker is also interested in instruction in how to read.

4. The DCI asked Mr. Barker to come to Washington to see the Agency, hear about some of the things we are doing in the language development field, and in research, and let us have the benefit of his views.

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Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Language Counselor

Attachments: Mr. Barker's Schedule
Mr. Barker's Biography

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BRIEFING OF MR. JAMES M. BARKER

WEDNESDAY, 6 MARCH 1957

| | | |
|------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 0900 | General Organization of the Agency | Mr. Kirkpatrick |
| 0930 | Language Development Program | Mr. Baird |
| 1030 | Scientific Intelligence | Dr. Scoville |
| 1100 | Economic Research | Dr. Guthe |
| 1200 | National Estimates | Dr. Kent |
| 1300 | Luncheon - Director's Dining Room | |
| 1400 | Central Reference System | Dr. Andrews |
| 1530 | Mr. Dulles | |

6 March

LUNCHEON FOR MR. JAMES M. BARKER
1:00 -- Large Dining Room

General Cabell

Mr Barker

Mr Kirkpatrick

Mr Carey

Dr Guthe

Dr Kent

Dr Andrews

[Redacted]

Mr Ashcraft

[Redacted] (Deputy D/Trng)

(TOTAL OF 10)

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